



U.S. Congressman

DUNCAN HUNTER

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Pro-Life Update



Protecting Life is a Top Priority

One of Congressman Hunter's first legislative actions as a Member of Congress was the introduction of **H.R. 881**, the Right to Life Act – legislation that defines the start of life at conception.

Since introducing **H.R. 881**, Congressman Hunter remains a strong advocate for the protection of human life, working in Congress to advance other initiatives that offer every child the same chance to experience life and succeed.

In addition to supporting an amendment to health care reform legislation to prohibit federal funds from covering abortion costs, Congressman Hunter is supporting the following House bills among others:

H.R. 227 – defines personhood of unborn by the 14th Amendment

H.R. 649 – requires doctors perform ultrasounds before an abortion

H.R. 1050 – prohibits cloning of human embryos

No place for Subsidized Abortion Coverage in Health Care Reform...

Amidst the health care reform debate, much attention has been given to the question of whether federal taxpayer dollars should go to subsidize elective abortions. Congressman Hunter's answer is NO – the same as a majority of his House colleagues.

By a vote of 240 to 194, the House of Representatives voted to preserve current law prohibiting federal funds from being used to cover abortions. Congressman Hunter is opposed to the overall health care reform bills passed by Congress but remains a strong proponent of the House anti-abortion funding amendment.

The Senate, when considering its own version of health care legislation, took a different approach. Instead of restricting taxpayer funded coverage for abortions, the Senate bill requires that those who are enrolled in plans that offer abortion services make separate payments for this purpose.

"I strongly support the anti-abortion funding language included in the House version of health care reform legislation and remain categorically opposed to the overall bill. The Senate language represents a significant departure from House action, indicating a dramatic shift in federal policy that would open the door to subsidized abortion coverage. The Senate language is unacceptable and should have absolutely no place in any version of health care reform legislation that might move forward."

Now that the House and Senate have passed respective versions of health care legislation, a single piece of legislation must now be produced and returned to each chamber for a final vote. Regardless of how Congressional leaders proceed, Congress should accept nothing short of the House anti-abortion language and continue promoting sensible alternatives to reform health care.

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